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# **Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs) and Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP)**

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# Presentation Overview

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## ■ RABs

- ▶ RAB Activities
- ▶ RABs at BRAC Installations
- ▶ Interim RAB Adjournment Policy
- ▶ Lessons Learned

## ■ TAPP

- ▶ Availability and Eligibility
- ▶ Procedures
- ▶ Component Responsibilities
- ▶ RAB/TAPP Reporting Requirements



# RABs

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- Forum for community, installation, and regulators to discuss and exchange information about DoD's environmental restoration program
- Review and comment on plans and reports
- Provide advice on cleanup
  - scope/schedule of studies and cleanup
  - site and work plan priorities
  - remedial technologies





# RABs Required at BRAC Installations

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- Where property is to be transferred to the community
- Where property is not going to be transferred to the community
  - sufficient, sustained community interest



# RABs at BRAC Installations

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- Number of BRAC installations  
DoD-wide = 205
- Number of BRAC installations  
participating in RABs = 114



# RAB and LRA Roles

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## RAB

- Provide input to BCT on remedy selection and priorities
- Inform LRA of issues and input given to BCT

## LRA

- Develop local redevelopment plan
- Inform community, RAB, and BCT
- Maintain awareness of environmental issues



# Interim RAB Adjournment Policy

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An installation may adjourn its RAB in consultation with the community if one of the following is true:

- ▶ restoration is complete
- ▶ all remedies are in place and operating
- ▶ there is no longer sufficient, sustained community interest



# Lessons Learned

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- Reach early agreement on the RAB's purpose and scope
- Focus on restoration
- Establish a positive relationship with LRA
- Ensure orientation training benefits all

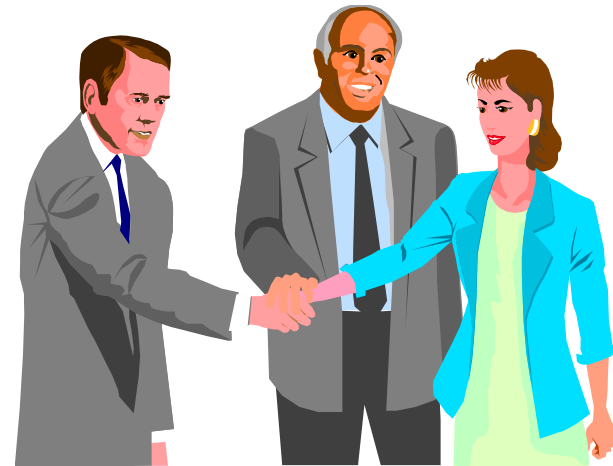




# What is the TAPP Program?

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- A mechanism to provide community members of RABs and TRCs with independent technical assistance in interpreting scientific and engineering information regarding environmental restoration activities at an installation.





# TAPP: Types of Assistance

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- Interpretation of technical documents
- Review of proposed restoration technologies
- Participate in relative risk site evaluations
- Understand health and environmental implications of sites and cleanup strategies
- Training, as appropriate



# TAPP: Who can get it?

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*According to the 1996 NDAA:*

- Community members of a RAB or TRC
- At least three community members (excluding local government officials) on the RAB or TRC
- Majority of the community members must agree to the TAPP
- LRAs, special interest groups, and citizens groups cannot receive TAPP



# TAPP: NDAA Requirements

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- Community members must demonstrate the need for assistance and that there is no source at DoD, EPA, State, or local government
- The technical assistance is likely to contribute to environmental restoration activities at the installation and community acceptance of such activities



# TAPP: Purchase Order Approach

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Using government purchase orders, DoD procures technical assistance for RAB/TRC community members.

- ▶ Total Limit: \$100,000
- ▶ Yearly Limit: \$25,000 or 1% of installation's total restoration cost to complete, whichever is less
- ▶ Funding Source: BRAC (closing and realigning), DERA (operating)



# The TAPP Procedure

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1. RAB/TRC community members identify need for assistance
2. Complete and submit TAPP application
3. Commander of installation approves or disapproves
4. Installation contracting office procures contract with assistance provider
5. Assistance is provided
6. Closeout report is produced



# TAPP: Component Responsibilities

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- Train installation personnel
- Inform RABs/TRCs of TAPP
- Assist RABs/TRCs in determining needs and in application process
- Program funds, as appropriate



# TAPP: Implementation Schedule

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- Final TAPP rule published: *February 2, 1998*
- Implementing guidance issued as part of the Management Guidance: *March 17, 1998*
- Train-the-trainers conducted: *Fall 1997*
- Installation training being conducted: *1998*
- Implementation beginning in *FY 1998*





# RAB/TAPP Reporting Requirements

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## RAB

- Establishment date
- Membership
- Activities
- Advice
- Funding

## TAPP

- Funding
- Evaluation of whether TAPP was helpful



# Other RAB/TAPP Information

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## ■ DUSD(ES) Cleanup Office home page:

- ▶ <http://www.dtic.mil/envirodod/>
  - DERP Management Guidance
  - Joint DOD/EPA Implementation Guidance
  - Proposed RAB Rule
  - RAB Resource Book
  - RAB Directory
  - FFERDC Report
  - TAPP Rule

## ■ Component Guidance

## ■ TAPP Resource Book (*forthcoming*)



# Other RAB/TAPP Information

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## ■ Points of Contact:

- ▶ DoD - Marcia Read (703)697-9793
- ▶ Army - Karen Wilson (410)671-1525
- ▶ Navy - Cindy Turlington (703)602-5330
- ▶ Air Force - Alan Waite (703)607-3534
- ▶ DLA - Ramesh Desai (703)767-6242



# Conclusions

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- DoD policy requires that RABs be formed at closing bases
- RABs provide advice on cleanup and work with LRAs
- TAPP is a new mechanism for RAB technical assistance